



ROCKET GAMEDAY

Neenah (7-3) vs. Appleton North (2-9)

January 19, 2016 - 7:15 p.m.

Ron Einerson Fieldhouse



2015-16 Schedule

Dec. 1	at Bay Port	L 66-67 ot
Dec. 4	Appleton West	W 62-48
Dec. 10	at Kimberly	W 62-59
Dec. 18	Oshkosh North	L 47-83
Dec. 22	Fond du Lac	W 72-64
Dec. 28	*vs. Madison East	L 44-62
Dec. 29	*vs. Slinger	W 61-52
Jan. 5	at Appleton East	W 54-52
Jan. 8	Hortonville	W 67-60
Jan. 15	Oshkosh West	W 65-53
Jan. 19	Appleton North	7:15 p.m.
Jan. 22	at Kaukauna	7:15 p.m.
Jan. 26	at Appleton West	7:15 p.m.
Jan. 29	Kimberly	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 2	at Oshkosh North	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 5	at Fond du Lac	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 9	Appleton East	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 11	at Hortonville	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 13	Wausau East	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 16	at Oshkosh West	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 19	at Appleton North	7:15 p.m.
Feb. 23	Kaukauna	7:15 p.m.
Mar. 6	WIAA Regional	7 p.m.
Mar. 7	WIAA Regional	7 p.m.
Mar. 12	WIAA Sectional (Osh. North)	7 p.m.
Mar. 14	WIAA Sectional (Marshfield)	TBA
Mar. 20-21	WIAA State (at Madison)	TBA

* - Game played at UW-Green Bay Kress Center

Series History

- ▶ Neenah leads the regular season series with Appleton North 31-9.
- ▶ Neenah leads the postseason series with Appleton North 1-0.
- ▶ Over the past 50 years, the only FVA school that Neenah has a better winning percentage against than Appleton North (.780) is Menasha (.825).
- ▶ The longest Neenah regular season win streak in the series is 9 games (1999-2003).
- ▶ The longest Appleton North regular season win streak in the series is 2 games (1996 & 2010-2011).
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of victory (31 points) was in 2009 by the score of 60-29.
- ▶ Neenah's largest margin of defeat (25 points) was in 1995-96 by the score of 78-53. That game played at Appleton North was the first game ever played between these two schools.
- ▶ In the 41 total games that Neenah and Appleton North have played since 1995-96, only four games have gone to overtime. The Rockets have won all four of those games.

Around the FVA

	Conf.		Overall		Monday, Jan. 18 Games
	W	L	W	L	
Kaukauna	6	1	9	1	Tuesday, Jan. 19 Games
Neenah	6	1	7	3	Appleton North at Neenah
Hortonville	5	2	7	3	Oshkosh West at Appleton East
Oshkosh North	5	2	9	2	Fond du Lac at Hortonville
Appleton West	5	2	8	3	Kaukauna at Oshkosh North
Kimberly	4	3	7	4	Friday, Jan. 22 Games
Oshkosh West	2	5	5	6	Neenah at Kaukauna
Fond du Lac	2	5	4	6	Appleton East at Appleton North
Appleton East	0	7	3	8	Oshkosh North at Appleton West
Appleton North	0	7	2	9	Fond du Lac at Kimberly
					Hortonville at Oshkosh West



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fvasports.net

Tale of the Tape

(Conf. Only)	Neenah	App. North
Scoring Average	61.3	38.3
Scoring Defense	59.9	56.8
Scoring Margin	+1.4	-18.5
Field Goal Pct.	48.3	33.3
3pt Field Goal Pct.	39.5	23.9
Free Throw Pct.	68.9	46.5
Field Goal Pct. Def.	45.5	43.8
Rebounds/Game	22.2	23.5
Assists/Game	11.3	8.3
Turnovers/Game	13.3	16.0
Steals/Game	7.3	6.5
Blocks/Game	2.0	0.7
All-Time History:		
FVA Record	473-256	112-255
FVA Win Pct.	.649	.305
FVA Titles	13	0

Neenah Fight Song

Go, Neenah, win this game;
 Keep your spotless fame.
 We will cheer you all the while,
 As you fight and fight.
 RAH, RAH, RAH!
 We'll cheer 'til the echoes loud resound,
 For our joys are all profound;
 Then we'll sing to Alma Mater.
 Neenah High!

Neenah Boys Basketball Booster Club Mission Statement:

To advance the boys basketball program of the NJSD with moral, physical and financial assistance.

THE DA CARE
 ORTHOPEDICS PLUS

Athletic Training Services for all NJSD athletics are provided by:
Heidi Neustifter
 and
Theda Care Orthopedics Plus



Tonight's Matchup



The Rockets conclude their three-game home stand tonight when they welcome head coach Jon Liesener and his Appleton North Lightning to the Ron Einerson Fieldhouse. Coach Liesener is in his first year of leading the Lightning program. The former Lawrence University assistant coach inherited a team that finished last in the FVA in the 2014-15 season with a 2-16 mark in league play and overall record of 3-19. The Lightning has had a tough season so far at 0-7 in the FVA and 2-9 overall for the season. Appleton North's two wins came during the holiday break when it defeated two small enrollment schools in Platteville (57-53) and Black Hawk (68-36). In FVA action the Lightning has had only two games decided by less than 10 points this season. Those games were against Oshkosh West (55-47) and Appleton West (36-31).

The Rockets return back to the hardwood tonight looking to extend their season high four-game winning streak. Last Friday night the Big Red defeated Oshkosh West 65-53. This was a strange game in which Neenah led for almost the entire first half, only to allow the Wildcats to finish the half on a 15-3 run to take a two point lead into the half (34-32). The Rockets came out in the second half and assumed control of the game, but never really put their foot on the throats of the Wildcats, allowing them to hang around for almost the entire second half. However, a win is a win, and the Rockets have put themselves in a position of power seven games into the FVA season. With a win tonight, Neenah would guarantee themselves, at worst, a tie for first place heading to Friday night's main event at FVA powerhouse Kaukauna.

Tonight's game will be interesting on one front. For most of the 10 games this year, Neenah has been an underdog. Tonight, that is not the case. How the Rockets take care of business tonight will show how far this team has grown and matured since the beginning of the season.



Turning Back the Clock

Tonight, rather than revisit a memorable game in the series history between Appleton North and Neenah, we are going to look back at another memorable team in Neenah's glorious basketball tradition. Tonight we will look back at the 1968-69 Neenah Rockets.

The 1968-69 season started with a lot of change. Ole Jorgensen retired after the 1965 season. Doug Martin left for Wausau after the 1968 season. In May of 1968 Neenah hired a gentlemen named Ron Einerson. Coach Einerson had been a head coach for two years at Cashton and 10 years at Plymouth before arriving at Neenah. He inherited a team that lost all five starters from the previous year. In his first team meeting he gave his team three goals for the year. They were to play as a team, win the conference title, and go to state. His players responded by laughing at him. By March, no one would be laughing at Coach Einerson or the Rockets.

Coach Einerson's first game at Neenah was a memorable one. The Rockets hosted rival Menasha, and it also happened to be the same night that the gymnasium at Shattuck would be named after former coach and current AD Ole Jorgensen. The Rockets handled the Bluejays 78-61 to start the year 1-0. In fact, the Rockets got off to a fine start winning their first eight games before losing back to back games to Green Bay West and Green Bay East. The Red and White would win their next five before falling to Manitowoc. Perhaps the most memorable game of the regular season was a rematch at Green Bay West on a cold February night. The Rockets would claim a 68-65 verdict in double overtime. Neenah would wind up their regular season with a 14-4 overall mark (12-4 in conference) and would share a portion of the Fox River Valley conference title with a Green Bay East and Green Bay West. However, over the next decade, Neenah would be remembered most for what they did in March. Because, NO ONE during the next 10 years got the job done in March like the Neenah Rockets.

The Rockets began tournament play with convincing wins over Menasha (70-54), Montello (98-52), and Omro (84-75) to advance to the sectional. A 87-75 win over a very good Mayville team put the Rockets one game away from state. In the final the Rockets avenged an earlier season loss to Manitowoc by defeating the Ships on their home court 86-74. The third of Coach Einerson's three preseason goals was now accomplished. Play as a team, win conference, and go to state. At state Neenah would bump into Wausau and former Neenah Rocket head coach Doug Martin. Neenah took care of business 72-59 to advance to the semifinals. Then, Big Red defeated a talented Nicolet team 81-78 to advance to the state title game to play Beloit. Many historians consider the 1969 state title game a classic. Despite playing without starting point guard Tom Ponto the Rockets battled undefeated and favored Beloit for four quarters and two overtimes before falling 80-79. The game included a desperation heave that went into the net with two seconds to go in regulation to put the game into overtime. The Rockets finished the season 21-5 and state runner-up. Perhaps Neenah's love affair with this 1969 team is best summarized here. On the way back from Madison, Rocket fans met the team on Highway 41 in Oshkosh and lined up bumper to bumper all the way up to Neenah to welcome home their team. Once in Neenah there were over 6000 fans at the Fox Point Shopping Plaza to show Coach Einerson and his players how much Neenah loved its Rockets.

Until January 29th, when we welcome the Kimberly Papermakers, NEENAH WITH PRIDE!



Neenah Rockets

7-3 Overall, 6-1 Fox Valley Association

Head Coach: Lee Rabas (1st season, 7-3 at Neenah, 110-59 overall)

Assistant Coaches: Chas Pronschinske, Al Krueger

Student Assistant: Sam Borchers **Video Assistant:** Matthew Elbe

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
2	Josh Mericle	G	6-0	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Jose Alba-Zielinski	G	6-1	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Cole Szczepaniak	F	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Anthony Dehn	G	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Eli Powell	F	6-5	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
12	Payton Mericle	G	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Rayce Prosser	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Jonah Matulle	F	6-4	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Patrick Wangelin	C	6-5	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Jordan Mascal	F	6-5	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Anthony Bartman	C	6-6	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Zavier Sims	F	6-5	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
41	Joe Jung	G	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
43	Greg Lenhart	F	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Appleton North Lightning



2-9 Overall, 0-7 Fox Valley Association

Head Coach: Jon Liesener (1st season, 2-9 overall)

Assistant Coaches: Ryan Depouw

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
1	Nick Cochrane	F	6-3	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Tony Mattioli	G	5-11	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Spencer Christensen	G	6-0	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Chandler Crane	F	6-3	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Collin Squier	F	6-1	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
14	Carl Valk	G	5-8	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Jacob Henning	G	5-9	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Mitch Mologne	G	6-0	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Mitch Widule	F	6-1	Sr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
24	Jake Bellin	G	6-0	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Jacob Hiltunen	G	6-0	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
32	Josh Gasick	F	6-4	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Colin Mowbray	F	6-0	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
41	Connor Dahlke	F	6-4	Jr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345



Rocket Tradition

29 Conference Championships:

1928, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1939, 1940, 1943, 1945, 1946, 1949, 1951, 1961, 1962, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1971, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1998, 2014

3 State Championships:

1930, 1975, 1978

7 State Runner Ups:

1920, 1939, 1969, 1970, 1972, 1988, 2014

26 State Tournament Appearances:

1920, 1925, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1939, 1940, 1942, 1947, 1952, 1966, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1988, 2000, 2010, 2014

Junior Varsity

Neenah Rockets - Coaches: Kyle Popp and Ron Billman

Statistics Asst.: Nathan Laeyendecker

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
2	Seth Hammett	G	5-9	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
4	Peyton Mellenthin	G	5-9	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
11	Chance Pronschinske	G	5-9	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Logan Morrow	G	6-3	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
15	Matthew Pavletich	G	6-1	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Peter Herberg	F	6-3	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
25	Tyler Van Oursouw	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Spencer Schamens	F	6-2	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
33	Jaxon Spiegelberg	G	5-9	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
41	Caleb Feavel	F	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
43	Tyrese Taylor	F	6-4	Fr.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
45	Dakota Bartlett	G	6-4	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Appleton North Lightning - Coaches: Ross Van Handel and Shane Cullian

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	2-pointers	3-pointers	Free Throws	Fouls
1	Ryan Henning	G	5-10	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
3	Jack Vanekeren	G	5-8	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
5	Wes Sommers	G	5-10	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
13	Leo Koenig	G	5-11	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
14	Tyler Holmes	G	6-0	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
21	Noah Koleske	F	6-2	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
22	Cade Coenen	F	6-3	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
23	Jack Shockey	G	5-10	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
24	Michael Krause	F	6-2	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
31	Ryan Anselment	G	5-10	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
32	Sam Crowley	F	6-4	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
41	Bryan Meyer	F	6-3	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
43	Miles Saunders	F	6-1	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
45	Deepak Vir	F	6-4	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
51	Darien Peniston	F	6-4	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345
55	Connor Woodke	F	6-4	So.	2222222222	333333	1111111111	12345

Freshmen

Neenah Rockets

No.	Player	Ht.	Yr.
2	Kyle Martis	5-2	Fr.
3	Tim Nault	5-11	Fr.
4	Max Schneider	5-10	Fr.
5	Ethan Parker	6-1	Fr.
11	Grayson Schroeder	5-8	Fr.
13	Teddy Gullickson	5-7	Fr.
15	Quinn Rechner	5-7	Fr.
21	Carson Hughes	5-10	Fr.
23	Mason Morrow	5-10	Fr.
25	Hayden Jones	5-9	Fr.
31	Logan Eiden	6-1	Fr.
33	Marcus Hickey	6-1	Fr.
35	Sam Dietrich	5-9	Fr.
43	Martin Morales	6-0	Fr.
45	Andy Jensen	5-11	Fr.

Coaches: Marc Goodman and Christian Schnell

Appleton North Lightning

No.	Player	Ht.	Yr.
3	Zach Schaefer		
4	Thomas Weed		
5	Griffin Polce		
10	Drew Peters		
11	Nick VonHolt		
12	Brooks Ambrosius		
21	Luke Van Handel		
22	Kyle Hammen		
24	Jaymark Rude		
33	Devin Blom		
42	Gavin Krause		
44	Carson Kolbe		

Coach: Derek Blom